

31 October 2003

**CONTRACTING
Questions and Answers**

3:20PM

Q1: Why was HNC selected to administer the contract?

A1: Based on a site visit, site assessment and recommendations for executing the work conducted and presented by Huntsville personnel, the Coalition Joint Task Force in Iraq accepted USACE Huntsville Center's proposal and funded the effort on July 28, 2003.

Q2: Who selected HNC?

A2: The U.S. Army Coalition Joint Task Force – 7 in Baghdad selected the Huntsville Center, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to execute this work.

Q3. What businesses were awarded the contract by HNC?

A3: Tetra Tech FW, Inc.; Parsons Corporation; USA Environmental, Inc; EOD Technologies, Inc.; Zapata; Project, Cost, & Time, Inc.; and Stratacom.

Q4: How/Why were those businesses selected?

A4: Five of the businesses, Parsons, TetraTech FW Inc., USA Environmental, Zapata, and EOD Technologies have existing, competed contracts with the Huntsville Center. Existing contracts can be used to issue new task orders based on customer requirements. The type of work (ordnance & explosives), the work environment (Iraq), the urgency (supporting the war fighters), complexity of the work under the existing conditions and need for expedited action are important factors in this selection. Additionally, these five businesses receiving new task orders had overseas experience and experience in meeting the above requirements. PCT and Stratacom were contracts let for administration support to this unique mission.

Q5: What is the role of small business in this contract?

A5: Small businesses were awarded approximately 50 percent of the total contracts.

Q6: What is the length of the contract?

A6: The length of contract is currently 1 year, ending in Sept 2004 unless extended.

Q7: What credentials are required for the people doing the removal work?

A7: Contractors were selected based on their experience and their ability to provide personnel qualified to handle ordnance and explosives. All personnel working on this project with ordnance will require certifications that they meet specific established qualifications prior to being allowed to work.

Q8: When did the companies bid for theses contracts?

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A8: The US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Center, has an impressive record and experience handling removals of unexploded ordnance at Formerly Used Defense Sites, Base Realignment and Closure sites, and for installation support throughout the United States and in various countries around the world. The businesses selected to conduct removal/disposal actions under the current task orders have existing contracts to perform those missions. Such contracts were awarded under competitive bidding process during the year 2000. Existing contracts can be used to issue new task orders based on customer requirements and imperative needs for special expertise, such as the mission in Iraq. See Q&A #4.

Q9: Why is this mission being contracted, can the military not handle this work?

A9: Due to the quantity of CEA, the USACE expertise and capability in this mission area, and the need for the military to execute war-fighting missions, this is the best solution for the United States. DOD ordnance and explosives expertise has other critical missions to perform.

Q10: It only took 46 days from the funding of the mission on 28 July until the contractor begins operation on 11 Sept., isn't that unusually quick to bid and award a contract of this nature?

A10: This process was handled as an urgent and compelling need that allowed an expedited contract process.

Q11: Why did you plan it so that the contractor will begin operations on Sept. 11?

a). How?

A11: There was not a planned start date on 11 September. The start date was determined by our ability to have the assets (people, equipment and life support) in the forward area to begin operations in a safe, secure and work procedures, which ensured safety to the people of Iraq.

a): The outstanding support, cooperation, and single-minded purpose from DOD, USACE and the contractors resulted in a remarkable achievement.